SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND PROFESSIONAL STATUS OF COLLEGE LIBRARIANS IN MAHARASHTRA STATE: CASE STUDY

Synopsis submitted to

SWAMI RAMANAND TEERTH MARATHWADA UNIVERSITY, NANDED

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1. Introduction:-

Libraries existed in the ancient and medieval days also but their role has changed remarkably in the present context. In earlier days, the library has museum value and their holdings were meant only for elite. But now libraries are agencies of mass communication and an important source of emancipation. As a result of information explosion and technological changes the role of libraries and librarian has changed. Seventy years ago, librarianship as a carrier in India was not existed. Now it has emerged as with its own laws and methodology to meet the challenges of the ever changing information, technology and needs of the society and also of the rapid changes taking place in the universe of knowledge. Hence the concept of libraries and librarian has changed tremendously due to demand of society and growth of information technology. Now librarianship has recognized as a full-fledged profession. Many people are choosing it as a carrier option.

The socioeconomic background has great bearing on the social orientation of an individual, particularly on his professional orientation. Librarianship as a profession cannot be understood properly without a serious consideration of the socio-economic background of personnel. Education, occupation and income of a person as well as those of his parental family are the principal indicators of socio-economical status.

Socioeconomic status is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, and occupation. When analyzing a family's Socioeconomic status, the household income, earners 'education, and occupation are examined, as well as combined income, versus with an individual, when their own attributes are assessed. Or more commonly know to depict an economic difference in society as a whole.

2. Librarianship as a Profession in India:-

Although libraries existed in ancient India also, yet these were meant only for a few privileged persons and not for the society in general. As a result of invention of printing, growth of literature and development of education, the number of different types of libraries also grew from time to time. But these were manned by part-time librarians who did not possess any training in librarianship. Till the end of nineteenth century, the so called

librarians were nothing but keepers or custodians of books. It was only during the first half of the twentieth century that training courses in librarianship were started in India; library service was considered to be a social necessity and provided clientele oriented; Indian Library Association was established and steps were taken for enacting library legislation in various states in India. As such, the emergence of librarianship as a profession in India can be traced only in the first half of the twentieth century.

After the independence of India in 1947, a large number of schools of librarianship have been established, various specialised library associations have been set up at different levels, and provisions have been made for organizing in-service training courses, refresher courses, workshops, seminars etc. for updating of specialised knowledge in the field of librarianship. Now, especially since 1960, librarianship has emerged as a profession and developing very fast to attain maturity to be at par with other recognized professions.

3. Library Science Education in India

The beginning for systematic and a formal approach to education for Librarianship was made by Melville Kossuth Dewey (short name Melvil Dewey) in the west, from the east it was Dr. S. R. Ranganathan. The foundation of Library and Information Science Education was laid during 1911 when William Alenson Borden, an American trained librarian started and established a training course at Central library in Baroda (now Vadodara) under the Patronage of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaikwad to create manpower for organizing newly established libraries in the princely state of India, Baroda. The more systematic training programme was initiated by A. D. Dickenson at Punjab University, Lahore (now in Pakistan) He started a part time apprenticeship programme in librarianship in1915. The Andhra Desa Library Associations conducted training classes for the library workers in the state of Vijayawada in 1920. In 1920, a course for the training librarians was conducted at Bangalore under the programme of library development initiated by Sir M. Visveswaraya, the then Diwan of Mysore province. Madras Library Association conducted summer schools of three months duration for college librarians in 1929. Later on, the University of Madras introduced a post-graduate Diploma Course in Library Science in 1936. Andhra University and Bengal Library Association started training programme for librarians in 1935. The Imperial Library (now National Library of

India), Kolkata conducted a training course under the supervision of its librarian Sri. K.M. Asadullah leading to diploma in librarianship in 1935, which was continued till 1946. Banaras Hindu University started a similar course in 1942 and the University of Bombay in 1943. The University of Delhi laid the first corner stone of the Library Science Education just after Independence in 1946. Sir Maurice Gwyer invited Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, to start the Department of Library Science in the University and became a pioneer to start P-G Diploma course and Master's and Doctoral Degree programmes in Library Science. It was the first independent department of its kind at the university level and the first to establish a separate department of library science just like any other discipline. In 1947 the first post graduate diploma course was started and it awarded its first diploma in library science in 1948. A two-year course, the first ever Master Degree course in library science was also started in University of Delhi in 1949. It was the first university in the country as well as in (the British) commonwealth to introduce Doctoral studies in library science. D. B Krishna Rao was the first person to register as PhD candidate in University of Delhi during 1952-53 academic sessions and awarded the degree in 1957 under the guidance of S.R. Ranganathan, the father of Indian library science.

4. Statement of the problem:-

Problem of the present study is to find out the socioeconomic and professional status of college librarians in Maharashtra.

5. Definitional Analysis:-

I. Socioeconomic status -

Socioeconomic status is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of an individual's or family's economic and social position in relation to others, based on income, education, and occupation. When analyzing a family's Socioeconomic status, the household income, earners 'education, and occupation are examined, as well as combined income, versus with an individual, when their own

attributes are assessed. or more commonly know to depict an economic difference in society as a whole.

II. **Profession: -**

A paid occupation, especially once that involves prolonged training and a formal qualification.

III. **Professional: -**

Relation to or belonging to a profession or Engaged in a specified activity as one's main paid occupation rather than as an amateur**.**

IV. **Status: -**

Relative social or professional position "standing"

V. **Academic library –**

Academic libraries are school, college and universities. Academic library is a library that is attached to a higher education institution which serves two complementary purposes to support the school's curriculum, and to support the research of the university faculty and students.

VI. **College: -**

An educational institution or establishment, in particular or an organized group of professional people with particular aims, duties and privileges.

VII. **College Library: -** College library is library which is run by college for students and teachers.

VIII. **College Librarian-**

College librarian is a person who manages, organize, evaluate and disseminate information, providing support to members of the college including students, researchers and lecturing staff.

IX. **Maharashtra-**

Maharashtra is located on the western coast of India, is divided into thirty five districts which are grouped into six revenue divisions: Aurangabad Division, Amravati Division, Konkan Division, Nagpur Division, Nashik Division and Pune Division.

6. Review of literature:-

Review of relevant literature is an important step for research. A literature review is an account of what has been published on a topic by accredited scholars and researchers. It is a

description of literature, relevant to a particular field or topic. It gives an overview of what has been said, who the key writers are, what are prevailing theories and hypotheses, what questions are being asked, and what methods and methodologies are appropriate and useful. As such it is not in itself a primary research, but rather it reports on other findings.

A literature review tries to integrate the importance of research topic and results that were already obtained by previous studies. This will generally help readers understand more about the thesis statement, and value of researching. With literature review, one can summarize another researcher's work to make it as a reference that your subject is also important. After formulating research problem, the process of reviewing the related literature was started.

A bibliography is a basic information source for finding out researches carried out in the subject of library and information science. Different bibliographies are available for this purpose. Association of Indian Universities (AIU) published the bibliography of doctoral dissertation in social sciences which is a basic material in this regard. All the bibliographies published by Association of Indian Universities till 1981 were referred. In support of this, the bibliography of research in library & information science in India compiled by Vijay Pathak & L. S. Ramaiah (1986); P. S. G. Kumar (1987); Delhi University (1990); and Inter-University Board of India (1974) were scanned as they have covered research conducted at M. Lib. I. Sc., M. Phil, & Ph. D. level. The website of Vidyanidhi and Shodhganga was searched for thesis database and it is found that one research have been done on Socio-economic status of librarian.

In addition to this, a few books and large number of research articles related to the present study have been reviewed by the researcher. For research articles the researcher has scanned various databases like Emerald, EBSCO, Science direct, DOAJ, Project Muse, LISA, etc. It is found that none of the study has been done on the above topic.

7. Objectives:-

i. To find out social status of the librarians.
ii. To know the economical status of the librarians.
iii. To identify the job satisfaction of the librarian.
iv. To recognize the current professional status of the librarians.

8. Hypothesis:-

i. Majority of the librarians are likely to hail from middle class family background.

ii. Librarians with urban background are likely to be more professionally trained as compared to those with rural background.

iii. Librarians with better socio-economic background are more professionally oriented.

iv. Professional status of the librarians is not satisfactory.

9. Scope and limitation:-

Scope of the present study is librarians from the colleges having 2(f) and 12(b) status and the geographical coverage is Maharashtra state. In Maharashtra 1143 colleges are included under section 2(f) and 12(b) section of U.G.C.

10. Methodology:-

Survey method is a useful method for describing the characteristics of large population. The survey method is one of the most effective and sensitive instruments and can produce much needed knowledge. For the present study survey method will be adopted because when population size is large to collect reliable information in short time span survey method is suitable.

i. Tool of data Collection:-

Questionnaire will be used as the data collection tool.

ii. Population and sample

The population for present study is belonging to college librarians in Maharashtra state. For selecting the sample systematic sampling method will be used.

11. **Importance of the study:-**

Socioeconomic status makes impact on any profession and librarianship is not exception for the same. This study will find out what is the socioeconomic and professional status of college librarians, what are problems of the college librarians, what is the professional and academic qualification, who motivated to join library profession etc. Finding of the study

will be helpful in knowing the problems of librarians in Maharashtra and it will suggest solutions of those problems on the basis of findings of the research.

12. Chapters of the study

Chapter 1: Introduction

I. Preamble
II. Statement of the Problem
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IX. Data Collection

Chapter 2: Review of Related Literature

Chapter 3: Socioeconomic and Professional Status

Chapter 4: Data Collection, Analysis and Interpretation

Chapter 5: Conclusions and suggestions

Appendix Bibliography

Questionnaire

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